

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH
Parish Council Minutes –January 15, 2015

Members present: Father Peter Martinez; Deacon Frank; “Twinkle” Copeland [Hands of Mercy]; Mary Welch [Health Ministry, Respect Life Committee]; Stan Bienia [Eucharistic Ministers]; Luz Garcia [Legion of Mary]; Juanita Lusson [Bereavement]; Helen Pelletier [Sacristan]; Paul Wondolowski [Altar Servers, et al.]; Lois Broden [Respect Life]

The Parish Mission Statement: “St. Paul the Apostle Parish Community exists for the sole purpose of carrying out the Mission of Jesus the Christ, the salvation of all humankind, by living and spreading the Good News.”

Topic	Discussion	Action
Opening	Meeting was opened at 6:05 pm, with prayer by Father Peter	
Parish Mission Statement	Was read by Father Peter	
Religious Education, Edge, and Life Teen – Deacon Frank	--To begin a new program with 1 st and 2 nd graders who are preparing for First Communion. Deacon will announce this weekend and begin the weekend of January 24/25. He will be explaining the program more in-depth to those parents involved. --Edge program meets on Wednesday evenings, with approximately 60 children --LifeTeen meets on Sunday evenings, with approximately 30-40 teens. There will be 32 of them on Retreat the weekend of January 17/18 th , including 18 from the Confirmation prep class	
Edge and Life Teen --	[See above]	
Liturgy Committee– Deacon Frank	--Blessing of Throats will be held on the feast of St. Blaise, Tuesday, February 3 rd , at the 8:00 am Mass --Lenten Mission for the parish will be on Thursday, March 5 th , at 7:00 pm. It will be led by Bishop Danny Flores --Lenten Penance Service will be TENTATIVELY on Monday, March 23 rd , at 7:00 pm. Father Peter will be contacting several other priests about their availability	
Finance Council – Father Peter	--Donations are leveling off --Spending has increased for Religious Education activities and other areas of benefit to parishioners --Finances are doing alright. It just means that we are saving less than in the past.	
Grounds and Facilities – Father Peter	--Work has begun on renovating bathrooms in the parish hall --Helen asked about replacing present storage facility when new construction begins. Father will address this with the architect, in order to make plans for transitioning the storage area.	
RCIA – Deacon Frank	--There are 3 candidates and no catechumens in the RCIA class. --This group will attend a retreat on January 31, 2015, at the Schoenstadt Retreat Center in Rockport.	
ACTS Retreat – Father Peter	Plans have begun for the Women’s ACTS Retreat, to be held April 16 through 19, 2015. Men’s ACTS Retreat will be held September 17 through 20, 2015	
Knights of Columbus – Paul Wondolowski and Stan Bienia	--There are a lot of events coming up. There will be a “Major Degree” held on Sunday, February 8, 2015. --Lenten Fish Fry will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18 th , and continue on all Fridays during Lent --There will be Food Handlers courses offered on Thursday, January 29 th , at 7:00 pm, and again on Saturday, January 31 st , at 10:00 am. This course is essential for all who will be serving food at the Ethnicfest.	
Respect Life – Lois Broden	Committee will be meeting this summer to plan for the annual October collections. It was suggested to collect items needed by CASA.	
Altar and Rosary Society – Helen Pelletier	Helen is checking into a different form of Advent Wreath for the church. January meeting went well.	

Bereavement – Juanita Lasson	Since the last Parish Council meeting there have been no funeral meals served.	
Eucharistic Ministers – Stan Bienia	--Stan gave updates on several homebound parishioners. --He has had requests from 2 parishioners to be Eucharistic Ministers. He will follow up with them for some basic orientation.	
Legion of Mary – Luz Garcia	--Luz Garcia developed a flyer about the Parish's Christmas Masses. It was distributed to over 400 Flour Bluff homes by the Legion members. --During the December visits to area nursing and adult day care facilities, the Legion members also sang carols and distributed light snacks. All residents enjoyed the ministry and fellowship.	
Hands of Mercy – “Twinkle” Copeland	From December 2 nd through December 30 th , we served 69 adults and 54 children, for an estimated equivalent value of \$1040. There were 3 new families served.	
Health Ministry –	No report	
St. Paula's Guild [Widows' Support Group] – Luz Garcia and Lois Broden	--Next meeting will be on Monday, January 26, 2015. The group will be rotating days for meetings to accommodate some who work on weekends. There will be a session on painting for the group. --For the December meeting, the 2 coordinators arranged for dinner, followed by a stretch limo ride to view Christmas decorations around the Corpus Christi and Portland areas. Great fellowship was had by all present!	
Discussion – <u>Old Business</u>	No Old Business	
<u>New Business</u> – <u>Father Peter</u>	--Fr. Peter mentioned that all families received a book by Matthew Kelly after all Christmas Masses. He encouraged all to read it, and learn about the “Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic.”	
Next Meeting	<u>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015, AT 6:00 PM</u>	
Closing Prayer	The meeting was closed with prayer by Deacon Frank at 7:10 pm	